DEMOCRATIC

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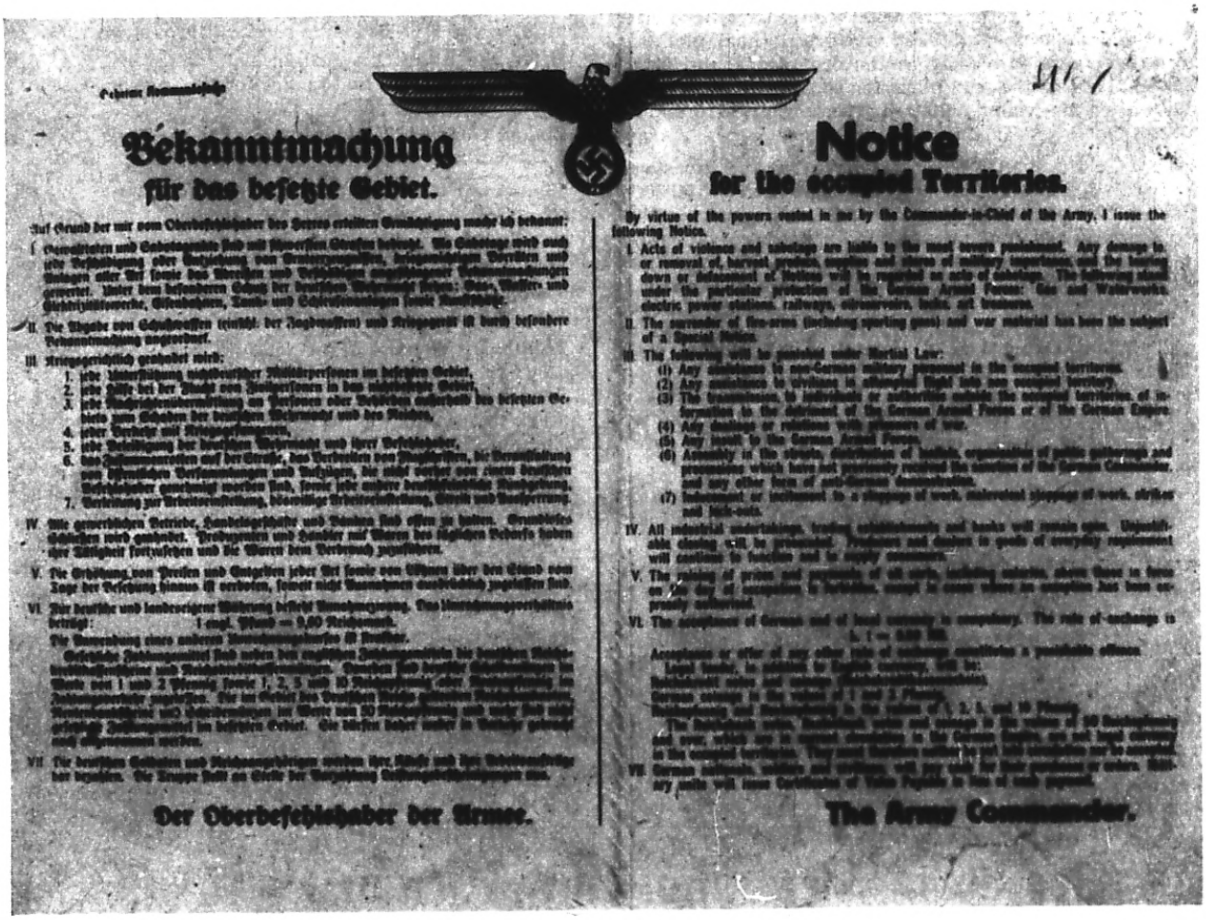
Achtung!



Bekanntmachung
für das besetzte Gebiet.

Der Oberbefehlshaber der Armee.

Notice
for the occupied Territories.

The Army Commander.

In the summer of 1940, nazi troops were concentrated on the channel coast, ready for the invasion of Britain. They had in their baggage the poster reproduced above.

"The following will be punished under Martial law . . . Insults to the German Armed Forces . . . Assembly in streets . . . Strikes . . ." states this historic document.

Everybody knows what happened in the nazi-occupied countries of Europe; there would have been mass executions, deportations and gas chambers in Britain too if Hitler's troops had landed.

The men who planned "Operation Sea-Lion", the nazi invasion of Britain, and the men who would have run Gestapo terror in Britain today hold top positions in the West German armed forces and West German public life. Details are given inside this issue.

And today, in 1961, the British Government is inviting the same old nazi generals to train their troops in Britain.

IT COULD HAVE HAPPENED

. . . In the pre-dawn hours of September 24th 1940, nine divisions of crack nazi troops swept ashore on England's channel coast between Folkestone and Brighton. Luftwaffe planes mercilessly bombarded civilian and military targets all over southern England; nazi naval units guarded the flanks of the crossing operation. While the first wave of Wehrmacht troops was battling for the bridgeheads, airborne soldiers were being dropped in the Lyminge-Sellinge-Hythe area. Other waves of infantry and panzer troops waited in northern France and the Lowlands to reinforce the first wave as soon as shipping was available. And behind the soldiers waited the Gestapo, the SS, the gas-chamber operators . . .

This plan, which was given the code-name "Operation Sea-Lion" by Hitler, was very nearly carried out. It was only called off when Goering's Luftwaffe failed to achieve air superiority over Britain, and Hitler became worried about the Soviet Union in his rear. And after September 1940, the German militarists never again had the opportunity to try this plan.

We do not need to imagine what would have happened if Hitler's invasion had been successful: nazi methods were demonstrated clearly in the occupied countries of Europe. Some of the nazi plans for occupied Britain were found after the war: details are given on page 116 and in "Berlin Notebook" in this issue.

Who are the men who would have led the invasion? Many are dead, others cannot be traced. Some of Hitler's generals live at ease on large West German pensions. But many of the key nazi officers who waited to pounce on post-Dunkirk Britain in 1940 today hold important positions in the West German armed forces. Here is a sampling of some of them (with present ranks):

Lieutenant General Max Pemsel: First general staff officer (known as "1a") of the 1st Mountain Division during 1940; this division was slated to embark at Calais and land near Hastings in the first attack and then, after seizing a beachhead, to move 16 miles inwards and cover the arrival of reinforcements.

One year later Pemsel showed what methods he employed in occupied territories. On October 19th 1941, as a commander in occupied Yugoslavia, he had his troops round up "all communists, male inhabitants suspected of being communists, all Jews, and a certain number of nationalist and democratic inhabitants" as hostages. Then, in retaliation for several killed and wounded German soldiers, he ordered that 2200 of the arrested Serbs be shot. The number included the total population of at least one village — men, women and children.

Today Pemsel commands the Second Corps of the West German Bundeswehr stationed in Ulm.

Lieutenant General Heinrich Trettner: First general staff officer of the 7th Parachute Division in 1940. This division, which was to be dropped in the Lyminge-Sellinge-Hythe area, was assigned the following tasks: to capture the high ground north and north-west of Folkestone; open up crossings over the Royal Military Canal near Hythe; to defend the landing against attacks from the north, especially by blocking the roads from Canterbury to Folkestone; to support the capture of Dover.

After the attack on Britain was called off, Trettner helped plan strategy and tactics for the invasion of Crete by the 11th Air Corps.

Today, General Trettner commands the First Corps of the Bundeswehr, stationed in Muenster.

Lieutenant General Heinrich Gaedcke: First general staff officer of the 25th Infantry Division. This division was scheduled to land in England as part of the fourth invasion wave.

Today Gaedcke commands the Bundeswehr's Third Corps, with headquarters in Koblenz.

Lieutenant General Hans-Joachim von Horn: Chief of Staff of the nazi Tenth Corps, which was to land between Brighton and the Isle of Wight. After reinforcements had landed, this group was to move north-westward towards Aldershot, flanking British troops in the Weald.

As Nazi Germany's military attaché in Paris before the war, von Horn had helped pave the way for the blitzkrieg attack on France which led up to Sea Lion plans.

Today General von Horn, one of the most important West German military leaders, commands the "Territorial Army", a special nation-wide military organisation completely independent of NATO.

Colonel Hans Baumann: First general staff officer of the 35th Division of the Wehrmacht in 1940. This division was to have landed near New Romney on the Channel coast and cut through the Romney Marsh and Kent in the direction of the Thames.

Today, Baumann is chief of staff in Army Area V (Baden-Wuerttemberg) of the West German "Territorial

"Sea Lion" Veterans Run Adenauer's Army

All three West German Army Corps — and the so-called Territorial Army — are commanded by officers who stood ready to lead troops onto British beaches in 1940.

Both the top Inspector and the Commander of the West German Navy, plus the commanders of both Baltic and North Sea fleets, played important parts in "clearing the seas" for Operation Sea-Lion in 1940.

The commanders of West Germany's two Luftwaffe Groups — North and South — and both present and future Luftwaffe Inspector all tried to blitz Britain into submission or weaken it enough for the final kill.

This means that every single man under arms in West Germany, whether in the army, the navy or the air force, is commanded by an officer who once tried to make Britain a vassal, occupied territory ruled by killers like Himmler and Eichmann.

But who made the master plan for this invasion of Britain — who worked out the landing strategy, the best method to cut off Cornwall, to reach the Thames and Severn estuaries and to surround and later capture London?

The answer is given on the next page.

Army", and is scheduled for early promotion to Brigadier General.

Rear Admiral Rolf Johannesson: In 1940, he commanded the destroyer "Erich Steinbrinck". Based in le Havre as part of the 5th Destroyer Flotilla, this vessel was assigned to cover the west flank of the fleet of landing vessels.

Johannesson is now commander of the West German Navy.

Flotilla Admiral Hubert, Baron von Wangenheim: Commanded the destroyer "Hans Lody" for the whole period planned for the Sea Lion operation. This destroyer, also based in le Havre, was scheduled to cover the west flank of the invasion.

Wangenheim is now in command of West Germany's North Sea Fleet.

Vice Admiral Friedrich Ruge: Was "Fuehrer" of all nazi mine-sweepers between the Netherlands and western France at this time. His job was to clear the invasion routes of all British mines just before the landings. Later in the war, Ruge became commander of the German naval command on the whole Italian front.

He is now Inspector of the Navy — the highest naval position in West Germany.

Flotilla Admiral Heinrich Gerlach: Was 2nd Admiralty Staff Officer with the "Fuehrer of the Destroyers". He helped plan destroyer tactics for the invasion of Britain.

Gerlach is today in command of the Baltic Fleet.

Lieutenant General Martin Harlinghausen: As Chief of Staff of a Luftwaffe corps, he played an important part in the air attacks designed to "soften up" Britain for the Sea Lion invasion. By the autumn of 1940 he had sunk 20 British merchant ships with a tonnage of 100,000 BRT. Hermann Goering awarded him the Golden Flyers' Award with Diamonds for his air attacks.

Harlinghausen, whom Franco had given the Golden Cross of Spain with Diamonds for his bombing attacks in the Spanish Civil War, also took a leading part in the battle of Norway and was "Aviation Fuehrer" of both the Atlantic battlefield and Tunisia later in the war.

Today, Harlinghausen commands the Northern Group of the West German Luftwaffe stationed in Muenster.

Lieutenant General Joachim-Friedrich Huth: Commodore of the "Horst Wessel" Squadron of the nazi Luftwaffe which took part in the attempt to destroy the RAF and clear the way for troop landings on the Channel coast. On September 11th 1940, just prior to the scheduled attack, Hitler handed Huth the Knight's Cross for his air attacks.

Huth now commands the Southern Group of the West German Luftwaffe with headquarters in Karlsruhe.

Major General Werner Panitzki: Was captain of a fighter squadron which tried to smash the RAF and gain superiority in preparation for the invasion of Britain.

Now in command of a Luftwaffe school in Fuerstenfeldbrueck, Bavaria, Panitzki is slated as probable Inspector (top officer) of the whole West German Luftwaffe, to succeed retiring Lieutenant General Josef Kammhuber, who also commanded a fighter squadron used to batter Britain.

Major General Sigismund, Baron von Falkenstein: Luftwaffe representative on nazi High Command Staff in 1940. In this capacity he drew up detailed plans for the "Blitz" on southern England. On August 8th 1940 he reported to General Jodl: "The chances of success (for invasion, ed.) are absolutely favourable."

Today Falkenstein heads the Luftwaffe department at the Leadership Training Academy of the West German Bundeswehr in Hamburg-Blankenese.

HE PLANNED IT ALL

"The Fuehrer at a staff conference on the Eastern front" says the original nazi caption to this photo published in the Kölnische Illustrierte Zeitung on August 12th 1942. Hitler and the other two generals shown in the photo are dead: the man in the middle, General Adolf Heusinger, is today top NATO chief in Washington.

In the summer of 1940, a nazi colonel named Adolf Heusinger was one of the main planners of the scheduled invasion of Britain.

Today, the same Adolf Heusinger, now a general, is Chairman of the Permanent Military Committee of NATO in Washington, and one of the keenest supporters of the project to send West German troops to Britain for training purposes.

After the fall of France in June 1940, the High Command of the nazi army set up its headquarters in Fontainebleau in one of the buildings today used as NATO headquarters. On July 2nd, Hitler ordered Colonel General Franz Halder, Army General Staff Chief, to draw up plans for the invasion, and a large part of the actual planning fell on the shoulders of Adolf Heusinger, at that date Deputy Chief of the Operations Department.

In the following weeks, Heusinger was hard at work. On July 26th 1940 General Halder noted in his war diary: "Heusinger reported on the

question of the crossing to England, technical details, proposals ..."

Four days later Halder noted in his diary that Heusinger had been promoted to Colonel, and that he had congratulated him. On the same date Halder recorded: "Heusinger reports that 16th Infantry Regiment has been attached to the 22nd Division." This airborne division had been earmarked to lead the attack.

Heusinger's planning work for the invasion was obviously satisfactory to the nazi bosses, for at the beginning of September, in the midst of the invasion preparations, he was promoted to Chief of the Operations Department. On September 30th he submitted a report to Hitler showing the state of readiness for "Operation Sea-Lion" as the invasion plan was called by the nazis. On October 8th, when it was obvious that the invasion could no longer be staged in 1940 he was busy reporting on the preparedness of Army Group A for crossing the Channel.

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Some notes on Heusinger's further career may be of interest. As Chief of the Operations Department of the nazi army he was the key man in the planning of the invasions of Yugoslavia, Greece and the Soviet Union. Between 1940 and 1944 Hitler sacked or demoted nearly all his leading officers for one reason or another, but he found Heusinger indispensable.

Heusinger not only planned the purely military operations, but also gave specific orders for the murder of civilian hostages. Documentary evidence of one such case has survived. On August 28th 1942, Heusinger signed a telegram to the nazi commander in Orsha, in occupied Byelorussia: "The Fuehrer demands immediate reprisal for (partisan) attack on Slavnoye, including sharpest terror measures." The local nazi commander replied that he intended to shoot 100 relatives of the partisans concerned. Heusinger telegraphed back laconically: "I agree to proposed measures."

When opponents of Hitler made the abortive bomb attempt on Hitler's life on July 20th 1944, Heusinger, who was sitting next to Hitler at the General Staff table, was slightly wounded. Three days later he was arrested by the Gestapo, but released a few weeks later, and received by Hitler, who apologised for having had him imprisoned. Every other officer arrested for complicity was shot or hanged: only Heusinger survived, and there is very strong circumstantial evidence that he saved his life by giving the Gestapo the names of officers implicated in the plot.

After the war Heusinger was held by the Americans for three years. An affidavit signed by him was produced as Exhibit US-564 in May 1946 at the Nuremberg Trial of major war criminals.

Herr General Speaks

"Our soldiers have done magnificent deeds. They fought to the last, and kept their honour unsullied."

General Heusinger on the nazi Wehrmacht, in his autobiography "Befehl im Widerstreit", 1950

"Let us stick to the old principles, those principles we used to have."

General Heusinger, addressing West German officers on September 27th 1958

In this affidavit he did not attempt to condemn nazi mass murders, but claimed that he had opposed such measures for tactical reasons. He said:

"It was always my personal opinion that the treatment of the civilian population in the area operations, and the methods of fighting the bands (partisans, ed.) gave the political and military leadership a welcome opportunity to carry out their aim of systematically reducing the Slavs and the Jews. I always regarded these cruel measures as a military foolishness, since they unnecessarily hampered the fight of our troops against the enemy."

After his release from an American prison camp in 1948, Heusinger immediately got a job with the American-financed spy service run by General Gehlen, former top nazi spy who had been taken over by American intelligence. In a later interview Heusinger stated: "Herr Gehlen came to see me in spring 1948, and suggested that it would be useful if I could keep up to date on the development of the military situation in the East ... My activity had nothing to do with activity as a secret agent."

In January 1951, when intensified planning began on the remilitarisation of West Germany, Heusinger was given the job of planning the new Wehrmacht. At the end of the same month, together with nazi General Hans Speidel, today Commander of NATO Ground Forces, Central Europe, he made a secret approach to a top-ranking US diplomat in Bonn, and threatened that if a number of SS killers who had been sentenced to death by a US military court were executed, then West Germany would refuse to raise an army.

On March 1st 1957, Heusinger took over Supreme Command of the West German Wehrmacht. On April 1st 1961 he took up his post as Chairman of the Permanent NATO Military Committee in Washington.

Gestapo Boss for Britain

On September 17th 1940, when Hitler's invasion plans were being finalised, the following letter was drafted in Department II of the Reich Security Main Office in Berlin.

"To SS Colonel Professor Doctor Six.

"Reich-Marshal Minister-President Goering decided on August 1st 1940 that the SS Security Police and Sicherheitsdienst will commence their activities simultaneously with the military invasion in order to seize and combat effectively the numerous important organisations and societies in England which are hostile to Germany.

"By virtue of Reich-Marshal Goering's authority I appoint you Representative of the Chief of the Security Police and SD in Great Britain. Your task is to combat, with the requisite means, all anti-German organisations, institutions and opposition groups which can be seized in England, to prevent the removal of all available material, and to centralise and safeguard it for future exploitation. I designate the capital, London, as the location of your HQ, and I authorise you to set up small action groups (Einsatzgruppen) in other parts of Great Britain as the situation dictates and the necessity arises."

The invasion did not take place, and Herr Doktor Six had no opportunity to take up his post as nazi police chief in London. Instead he was assigned to command one of the frightful "Einsatzgruppen" which moved about behind the nazi front lines on the eastern front, murdering tens of thousands of civilians, largely Jews. In 1944 he planned the holding of an "International Anti-Jewish Congress", which was abandoned as the end of the war neared.

In April 1948 he was sentenced to 20 years imprisonment by a US Military Court in Nuremberg, but was released in September 1952.

Today Professor Six heads a department in the important Deutz Engineering Works at Friedrichshafen, West Germany, and lives in a large villa in the nearby town of Kressborn. He was named in the Eichmann Trial in Jerusalem as Eichmann's immediate superior officer in the Reich Security Main Office.

(For more details of nazi invasion plans, see "Berlin Notebook" on the back page of this issue.)

3 Plans for Germany

The People's Chamber, GDR parliament, agreed on three plans for the solution of the German problem at its session on July 7th. Taken either in whole or in part, these plans would de-fuse the German problem and make Germany, for the first time in modern history, a centre point for peace and detente, instead of a war danger.

Here are the main points of the three plans, which the People's Chamber submitted for discussion to the West German Parliament and the German people as a whole:

I. Plan for a Good Will Treaty

The Governments of the two German states should agree without delay on the formation of a German Peace Commission, charged with the task of working out German proposals for a peace treaty, and for a "Good Will Treaty" which should improve relations between the two German states.

This Good Will Treaty could cover the following points:

1. Both German states agree to renounce atomic arms, and to agree on an immediate arms stop.

2. Both German states agree on the strength and armament of their respective armed forces, pending a general disarmament agreement.

3. Both German states ban in their territories propaganda for war and propaganda for revenge.

4. Both German states agree that their populations have the right of self-determination on their respective social systems. They pledge themselves not to intervene in the social system of the other German state.

5. Both German states support the conclusion of a non-aggression pact between the Warsaw Pact states and the NATO states, and support the establishment of an atom-free zone in Central Europe.

6. Both states pledge themselves to take steps to increase mutual trade and cultural and sport contacts, and to improve conditions for passenger traffic between the two states.

II. Plan for a Peace Treaty with Germany

The German Peace Commission should work out proposals for a German Peace Treaty on the basis of the UN Charter. The German proposals for such a treaty should include the following points:

1. The two German states pledge themselves to renounce force or the threat of force in international relations, and to solve international conflicts with peaceful means.

2. The two German states support the creation of a Germany which is militarily neutral. The main powers of the Anti-Hitler Coalition should guarantee this neutrality. The strength and armament of the defence forces of the two German states should be laid down; the German states renounce atomic arms.

3. The two German states and the other partners to the Peace Treaty guarantee the existing frontiers of Germany. The inviolability of the sovereign territory of the two German states shall be guaranteed.

4. All propaganda for war and revenge ist forbidden. All nazi, militarist and revanchist organisations are banned. Persons guilty of crimes against peace, crimes against humanity and war crimes shall not be allowed to occupy public office.

5. The partners to the Peace Treaty recognise the full sovereignty and right to self-determination of the German people, including the right to take steps towards German reunification as a peaceful state without outside intervention.

6. The partners to the Peace Treaty support the claim of the German people to representation with equal rights in UN and other organisations. Pending the reunification of Germany they shall support the acceptance of both German states in UN.

7. Extension of relations between guaranteed full liberty in the development of peace economy, shipping, and access to world markets.

8. The West Berlin problem will be solved on the basis of the Peace Treaty, which shall give West Berlin the status of a neutral Free City pending the reunification of Germany. This Free City may not be a centre for any form of espionage, subversion or hostile propaganda against other states. The inviolability of the status of the Free City and its freedom of decision in internal and external affairs shall be guaranteed. The communications of the Free City shall be guaranteed on the basis of agreements with the German Democratic Republic.

III. Plan for a German Confederation

The conclusion of the Peace Treaty opens the way to the reunification of Germany, which can only be achieved by way of a Confederation, owing to the differing social systems in the two German states. The bodies of the German Confederation should make recommendations to the two German Governments on the following points:

1. The conditions of the Peace Treaty should be fulfilled in both German states.

2. The obligations of both German states to military groupings should be systematically reduced, culminating in leaving these groupings. All foreign troops should be withdrawn.

3. Agreement on the military neutrality of both German states as a basis for the later establishment of a neutral united German state.

4. Completion of the complete disarmament of the two German states as a German contribution to universal disarmament.

5. Foreign relations of the two German states on the basis of the UN Charter. Membership of the two German states, or the German Confederation in international organisations.

6. Help for economically underdeveloped countries and the renunciation of all forms of colonialism.

7. Extension of relations between the two German states in the field of trade, culture, science and sport; unhindered travel between the two states.

8. The preparation of a democratic constitution for a united German state. General free and secret democratic elections in the whole of Germany for an All-German Parliament.

9. The creation of an All-German Government for a peaceful, neutral and democratic German state with Berlin as capital.

. . . But Adenauer Says "Nein"

In an election speech on July 9th, West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer flatly rejected the GDR proposals for an atom-free zone and a peace conference.

"The idea of an atom-free zone is sheer nonsense" Adenauer said. "It would not bring security to any nation, and would simply mean that Germans would be a second-class nation.

"And what, in the name of God, would be the use of a peace conference? Nothing would come out of it."

Buttered Baloney

Some western newspapers, basing themselves upon reports of local shortages in the supply of various foodstuffs, especially butter, in the GDR, have recently launched a campaign to suggest that "starvation is stalking East Germany".

Commenting upon these reports, the West German news magazine "Spiegel" stated on July 12th:

"West German newspapers have recently stated that people in the GDR 'do not have enough to eat'; a Social Democratic spokesman in Bonn claimed to have exact information that bread supplies were on the edge of breakdown. Actually East Germany is suffering not from a butter shortage, but from a structural crisis arising from an excess of purchasing power. The supplies of butter, in fact, are not lower this year than in 1960: they are higher. In the first quarter of this year the province of Halle consumed 181 tons of butter more than in the same quarter of 1960.

"In addition, statistics show that butter consumption in the GDR is considerably higher than the West German average. In 1960 the average West German bought 18.3 lbs of butter, and the average GDR citizen purchased 28.6 lbs ... At the moment there is no sign of any change in this relation."

(N. B. In Britain, average per capita consumption of butter was 20 lbs in 1960; in the USA, in 1959, it was 8 lbs.)

Dane Gets Medal

Niels Bohr, Danish physicist who helped discover the structure of the atom, was awarded the Helmholtz Medal on July 6th by the GDR's German Academy of Sciences. Professor Bohr is a Corresponding Member of the Academy.

The medal, which has been given to only a selected few world-famous physicists since it was established in 1892, was granted the Danish Nobel Prize winner because of his important discoveries in the field of quantum physics.

The Leibniz Medal, named for the 17th Century German scientist who founded the German Academy of Sciences, was given in accord with tradition to three part-time scientists — a botanist and two zoologists.

SS-Men Pensioned; GDR Protests

"West Germany has rehabilitated Eichmann by deciding to pay pensions to SS men" the GDR stated on July 4th in a protest note to the Big Four powers and other nations which helped defeat Hitler Germany.

"The West German Bundestag decided on June 29th to pay pensions and open up responsible government careers to all former members of the SS Special Troops, the SS 'Leibstandarte Adolf Hitler' and the SS Death's Head Corps," the GDR memorandum pointed out.

"The Allied Military Tribunal at Nuremberg officially condemned the SS and all its formations as a criminal organisation.... By granting civil service rights to leaders and members of this band of murderers, the West German state is sanctioning their criminal activities during the darkest years of Germany and all Europe. With this law, the ruling circles of West Germany have officially rehabilitated Eichmann and his accomplices. They have taken on, as political allies, the guards of the fascist concentration camps, the execution squads, the members of the SS Death's ler's Reich Security Main Office ...

"The Government of the GDR urges the countries of the anti-Hitler coalition to oppose this new violation of the Potsdam Agreement and to conclude a democratic peace treaty with both German states which will call a halt to the ever growing development of neo-fascism in West Germany."

Censor Bans Film

The British Board of Film Censors has refused to grant a certificate for public showing to the GDR documentary film "Operation J", which deals with the nazi crimes of Dr Hans Globke, today West German Chancellor Adenauer's personal assistant. The board stated: "The film appears to have been made for the purpose of damaging the reputation of an individual".

The individual in question, Dr Globke, was largely responsible for the nazi legislation which gave Eichmann and his accomplices the "legal" cover for their liquidation of European Jewry.

CHILDREN AND POLITICS

Summer holiday trips by West German children to the German Democratic Republic were made virtually impossible on July 7th when the West German organisation "Happy Holidays for All Children" was forbidden as a subversive communist organisation. This group had already arranged for about ten thousand mostly needy West German youngsters to go to summer camps in the GDR, where all children are guaranteed inexpensive holidays in the mountains or at the lakes or seashore.

The first victims of the ban were 40 children from Hamburg. The West German border police refused to let their bus cross over into the GDR and forced the children to return home. Frau Helene Opladen, the mother of one of the disappointed children, said: "My daughter would have been able to spend her first summer holidays outside Hamburg. She had been so happy about the visit to the GDR. Now she has to stay at home, because I cannot afford a summer camp in the Federal Republic." Less than one-third of Hamburg's children are able to leave the city in the summer.

Bremen, the one West German province which refused to go along at first with the ban, was pressured unceasingly by press and government circles until it joined in on July 11th. On the same day, political police in Munich searched the homes of members of the holiday organisation for lists of the children who were to go to the GDR.

Polio Serum Refused

Despite rising figures on deaths and sickness from poliomyelitis in West Germany, the Federal Health Council of West Germany decided on July 7th not to "recommend or permit" the Sabin oral immunisation serum before October. This meant, in effect, that Democratic Germany's offer to supply 3,000,000 units of the serum for the areas worst hit by the disease was turned down by West Germany.

The reason given was that the Sabin immunisation method must first be tested. This serum, first developed in the U.S.A., has already brought highly satisfactory results in all socialist countries, in the U.S.A. itself and in other parts of the world.

Most West German newspapers suppressed the news that the GDR had offered large quantities of the serum.

MICE & MOUSE-TRAPS

By Professor Gerhart Eisler

"Do you know what I feel like?" my acquaintance from West Berlin asked me. Since I refrain on principle from interfering in the soul life of West Berliners, I did not know and therefore shrugged my shoulders. "Like a mouse in a mouse-trap" he said. This answer has made me very unhappy.

Mice do not have an easy life; who would wish to be a mouse, especially one in a mouse-trap! And when a human being compares himself to a mouse in a mousetrap, then it almost brings tears to my eyes.

Since I am not inhuman, I attempted to console my West Berliner acquaintance and to talk him out of thinking that he was a mouse in a mouse trap.

"Where did you ever get the unhappy idea that you were a mouse in such a spot?" I asked him. "Your demilitarised Free City," he replied. "Mine? Ours! It is actually meant for you."

"That's just what I mean!" he replied. "Just think what awaits us then."

"Why, what awaits you then?" I asked him.

"I'll lose my western currency, I'll lose my pension, my rights."

"But why will you lose them? If you yourself rule in West Berlin and only you have the right to decide how things are done there, then neither your currency, your pension nor anything else will be affected. Nothing will be taken from you at all."

"Are you sure that's how it will be?" my West Berlin acquaintance asked and looked probingly at me.

"I am perfectly sure of it."

"Can I believe you?" my West Berlin acquaintance asked.

"You can believe me, and in addition everything will be laid down in agreements."

But my acquaintance from West Berlin began again to talk about his worries. "If I want to travel to West Germany or somewhere else, will I be able to?"

"As the citizen of a demilitarised Free City you can travel wherever you want to. Who would try and stop you? A demilitarised Free City would not limit the travel rights of the West Berliners."

"But what about my freedom?" asked my West Berlin acquaintance, who felt like a mouse in a mousetrap.

"But who would want to curtail your freedom? Your freedom will be guaranteed in every way and even internationally in special treaties. In your Free City of West Berlin you will be able to do what you please, elect whoever you please, say whatever you please, be quiet about whatever you please, work any way you please, dance any way you please, make love any way you please, pray to God any way you please, honour Karl Marx any way you please; in other words, you can do anything you want in your demilitarised Free City. Neither we nor any other outside power will or can make you any kind of difficulties at all."

"Don't you really want to devour us? Isn't that demilitarised Free City just one of those tricks of yours?"

"Digest your fears and then you will be rid of them. The demilitarised Free City will do you good. You will be able to sleep quietly. You and your children won't have any worries about what will happen in West Berlin, and everything will work out for the best."

"But there are some things we won't be able to do then, aren't there?" my West Berlin acquaintance asked, and I had the impression that he was feeling a little more optimistic.

"Of course, but those are things which do not affect you. Are you a spy or a secret agent?" I asked him. "My goodness, no!" replied my West Berlin acquaintance.

"Are you on the staff of the US-run RIAS radio, which of course will have to disappear?" "What do you think I am, you know what my job is. I work at an honest and decent job," the West Berliner answered.

"Have you made plans, like your Mayor Willy Brandt, to undermine and destroy the GDR and several other countries from West Berlin?"

"I have lots of other more important worries," the West Berliner said. "You may believe me on that."

"Are you only able to exist when Herr Strauss, the wild man from Bavaria, extends his protection over West Berlin?"

"You can believe that I have no great sympathy for Herr Strauss. I don't need him. He has no more business in West Berlin than I have in Bavaria."

"Then what are you afraid of, my friend?"

My West Berlin acquaintance took leave of me. I do not know whether I consoled him or whether he still feels like a mouse in a trap. Perhaps he will read a West Berlin newspaper or hear a speech by Mayor Willy Brandt and start feeling down-hearted about his future again. Who knows?

I think it is a human duty not only for me but a human duty for all East Berliners to help dissipate any thoughts by the West Berliners that they are mice in a trap. I am sure that everyone will agree with me when I wish the West Berliners the following: may they become happy West Berliners in a happy demilitarised Free City. This will be good for them, good for us and good for everyone until the great day of German reunification arrives.

Win a New Reader

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BERLIN NOTEBOOK

By John Peet

On the front page of this issue we reproduce an interesting memento of the Hitler invasion which did not come off, as a timely reminder of what might have happened. In the summer of 1940 the nazi bosses were so confident that they were going to conquer Britain that they were making all sorts of other cosy schemes too: after the war, for instance, nazi documents were found revealing that plans had been made to deport all British males between 17 and 45 to continental Europe. Other documents show that such dangerous movements as the Church Lads' Brigade, the YMCA, the PEN Club, and the Fabian Society were going to be banned, and that over 2000 people ranging from Winston Churchill to H.G. Wells, Paul Robeson, Fenner Brockway and William Gallacher were listed for "automatic arrest".

During the summer of 1940, local SS bosses submitted to Berlin lists of additional nastinesses that they had thought up for themselves; on January 7th 1955 GERMAN REPORT published for the first time the suggestion list submitted by SS Captain Seibert of Munich. Here are a few extracts:

"The English universities and colleges (Oxford, Cambridge, Eton, Harrow, etc.) are excellently fitted for the accomodation of SS troops. They have large playing fields, dormitories and social rooms, and are well situated.

"Ireland must also be occupied under all circumstances ... Many Englishmen will attempt to escape there in motor boats.

"The persons from Munich suitable for work in the SD Security Service include Dr Wirsing (today a leading West German journalist, ed.).

"A special staff is necessary for the British Museum. Germanic works of art in the widest sense of the term (including Rubens and Rembrandt, etc.,) must be sorted out ...

"Since the battle of Trafalgar the Trafalgar Column has been a symbol of British sea and world domination. It would be an impressive sign of German victory if the Trafalgar Column were to be transferred to Berlin. This might be suggested to Goering."

Just incidentally, returning to the list of those prominent Britons marked for "automatic arrest", I note that one person mentioned is Harold Macmillan. I wonder whether he remembered this when he was assenting recently to the stationing of West German troops in Britain. He must be aware of the fact that the German generals who command these troops today are exactly the same men who would have thrown him into a concentration camp if they could.

Fascism = Western Freedom?

"A seven-point plan for Berlin ... stated that none of the following activities would be permitted in a neutralised 'free city': espionage, anti-Communist subversion, hostile propaganda against East Germany, any form of war-mongering, or any type of militarist or fascist organisations.

"In Communist parlance, observers noted, this amounted to demanding the suppression of West Berlin's free political life and its freedom of speech, press and radio."

"New York Herald Tribune", July 7th

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If we distributed prizes for the most surprising reader's letter of the year, I feel one should go to Mr Edward Faulkner of Elyria, Ohio, USA. He wrote to us:

"Since the death of John Peet, former editor, reported in this country earlier this year, I wonder how you manage to immortalise him and continue his name as editor of your clandestine sheet."

The answer, Mr Faulkner, is quite simple. In the socialist countries, people are simply not allowed to die. The cruel minions of the Red Police (I hope I have the terminology right) are so unfeeling that they make even corpses work for them; I shall spare your feelings and not describe in detail the exotic Tibetan drugs which they use: one of the most ghastly methods employed is reading to their victims the slab-like leading articles with which some newspapers here flatten their readers. This treatment is guaranteed a) to send the living into a coma; and b) to quicken the dead.

But seriously, I can report that any story alleging that I am dead is not yet true (by a great effort I have refrained from repeating Mark Twain's over-quoted remark on a similar occasion). If any reader in the USA saw the report to which Mr Faulkner refers, I would be very grateful for details: I could then publish it with a tasteful black margin.

Anyway, I collect such interesting biographical notes: high-points hitherto have been in autumn 1950, when the West Berlin newspaper "Telegraf" had me confined in a lunatic asylum, and in June 1953 when the West Berlin newspaper "Tagesspiegel" reported in great detail how fascist rioters had hurled me from a third storey window.

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GERMAN REPORT is produced by a rather minimum staff (now that I am dead, of course, it is even smaller) and every year we run into some difficulties when the holiday season comes round. This year we plan to counter the difficulty by skipping one issue, so this number of the paper will be followed by a gap until August 18th. We hope nobody minds.

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I always seem to run into trouble when I quote from the classics. A couple of numbers ago I stated that Brutus said "Cry 'Havoc!' and let slip the dogs of war." An attentive reader in Karl Marx Stadt corrected me: it was really Mark Anthony. Interestingly enough, none of the readers of GERMAN REPORT in Britain thought it necessary to call my attention to the slip. Do only readers in the GDR know their Shakespeare?

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